

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A cellulosic product comprising:

a) cellulosic fibers, comprising:

i) a primary cell wall,

ii) a secondary cell wall surrounded by the primary cell wall,

iii) a tertiary cell wall surrounded by the secondary cell wall,

iv) a membrane surrounded by the tertiary cell wall,

v) a lumen defined by an inner surface of the membrane,

vi) a plurality of pits in the primary cell wall thereby exposing portions of the secondary cell wall, and

vii) a plurality of fibrils attached to the secondary cell wall and exposed by the plurality of pits; and

b) precipitated calcium carbonate prepared in-situ during papermaking deposited on the cellulosic fibers, wherein:

i) the precipitated calcium carbonate is present in a variety of sizes, shapes and morphologies, and is present in the cellulosic product on all physical features of the cellulosic fibers, and

ii) ~~wherein~~ at least a portion of the precipitated calcium carbonate is present with the fiber based on interaction with one or more chemicals used in papermaking, and

iii) the precipitated calcium carbonate is present in or on at least some of each of the lumen, the secondary cell wall, an exterior surface of the primary cell wall, and the fibrils.

Claim 2 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 1 wherein the precipitated calcium carbonate is present in a non-uniform manner.

Claim 3 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 1 wherein the precipitated calcium carbonate is present in a manner selected from the group consisting of single crystals, agglomerates of crystals, combined agglomerates of crystals, amorphous particles, and combinations thereof.

Claim 4 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 1 wherein a zeta potential during papermaking of said cellulosic product ranges from -5 to about +5.

Claim 5 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 4 wherein the zeta potential during papermaking of said cellulosic product ranges from -2 to about +2.

Claim 6 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 1 wherein the freeness of the fibers ranges from about 300 csf to about 900 csf.

Claim 7 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 6 wherein the freeness of the fibers ranges from about 400 csf to about 500 csf.

Claim 8 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 1 wherein the crystals have a size ranging from 0.1 micrometer to about 10 micrometers.

Claim 9 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 1 wherein the precipitated calcium carbonate is present at a weight percent of least 40 percent.

Claim 10 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 1 wherein the fibers are derived from wood, non-wood, or recycled materials.

Claim 11 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 1 wherein during papermaking, the fiber comprises an aqueous suspension having a consistency ranging from about 0.05 percent to about 50 percent.

Claim 12 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 1 wherein during papermaking the fiber comprises an aqueous suspension having a consistency ranging from about 5 percent to about 10 percent.

Claim 13 (original) A building product comprising the cellulosic product of claim 1.

Claim 14 (original) A paper product comprising the cellulosic product of claim 1.

Claim 15 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 1 wherein the fiber is bleached fiber.

Claim 16 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 1 wherein the fiber is derived from a kraft process.

Claim 17 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 1 wherein the precipitated calcium carbonate has morphology selected from the group consisting of amorphous, crystalline, powder, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 18 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 1 wherein the precipitated calcium carbonate is crystalline and has a crystal morphology selected for the group consisting of calcite, aragonite, vaterite, rhombohedral, sclenohedral, prismatic, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 19 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 1 wherein the fiber has native calcium present in an amount ranging from about 1 ppb to about 1 ppm.

Claim 20 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 1 wherein the precipitated calcium carbonate is derived from reaction of non-precipitated calcium carbonate with carbon dioxide.

Claim 21 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 1 wherein the precipitated calcium carbonate is derived from reaction of a salt of a bicarbonate with carbon dioxide.

Claim 22 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 1 wherein the one or more chemicals used in papermaking are selected from the group consisting of wet strength additives, retention aids, drainage aids, flocculants, dispersants, chelants, scale inhibitors, corrosion inhibitors, and slimicides.

Claim 23 (original) The cellulosic product of claim 1 wherein at least some of the fibers comprise cells selected from the group consisting of tracheid cells, ray cells, ray parenchyma cells, epithelial parenchyma cells, vessel elements, longitudinal parenchyma cells, and combinations thereof.

Claim ~~23~~ 24 (currently amended) The cellulosic product of claim 23 wherein at least some of the cells have pits, and at least some of the pits have PCC deposited therein.

Claim 25 (original) The product of claim 23 wherein a majority of the cells have pits, and substantially all of the pits having PCC therein.